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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Denmark

SUBJECT The Textile Situation

ORIGIN

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DATE:

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DIST. 10 March 1947

PAGES

SUPPLEMENT

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1. Conditions in the textile industry were relatively satisfactory during 1946 because of large imports. These will now lapse, however. Employment in the industry as a whole was at 75% and limitations were caused chiefly by a shortage of yarns.
2. Although the supplies of cotton and wool for the spinning mills were fully satisfactory -- and will continue to be so in 1947 -- capacity of the mills has not been sufficient to keep the weaving mills in full production, especially in the case of cotton. The wool weaving mills have suffered chiefly from a shortage of worsteds. Supplies of woollen yarns from the spinning mills, on the other hand, have been above normal, with the result that the wool weaving mills have been able to maintain employment at a level above normal.
3. It is hoped that it will be possible to obtain yarns from the U.S.A. in 1947, but the problem of obtaining dollars has not yet been solved. Furthermore, there is some prospect of obtaining cotton yarn from Belgium. In 1946, Denmark was able to get cotton yarn spun in Italy, with Italy receiving some of the raw cotton as payment. Italian demands have been so greatly increased, however, that it is doubtful if business can be continued with that country. It may be possible instead to negotiate contracts with spinning mills in Austria, Finland, and Germany.
4. The drapery industry is suffering severely from a shortage of rayons. Not much more than one-fifth of the supply needed for normal consumption has been imported, with the result that employment in this industry is only at fifty or sixty per cent of the pre-war level.
5. The present economy program will eliminate most finished textile imports. Roughly speaking, there will remain cloth imports to the value of only about 40,000,000 Kr, corresponding to a third of the 1938 import volume. Normally only about one half of Denmark's consumption is supplied by her own textile mills. Since not more than 8% employment can be expected in the textile industry as a whole in 1947, the supply of textiles will be only about forty to fifty per cent of normal. The shortage of woven fabrics in Denmark, which already corresponds to three years' normal supply, will thus be increased by an amount corresponding to an additional half year's supply.

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EXEC.		FBL	X	FBX	SPDT		CFCE			
CONTROL										
TRANS	X	FEF		SPDA	TRB	X				

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